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CAWP Fact Sheet

Center for the American Woman and Politics
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WOMEN IN ELECTIVE OFFICE 1990

In 1990, more women are serving in Congress than ever before. Three states have women governors. The number of women in state legislatures is more than four times larger than it was twenty years ago. But women still hold only a small minority of elective offices; at no level of office do women hold more than 17.1% of the available positions.[1]

CONGRESS

In 1990, women hold **30**, or **5.6%**, of the 535 seats in the 101st U.S. Congress. **Two** women serve in the **U.S. Senate**:

Nancy Landon Kassebaum, R-KS
Barbara Mikulski, D-MD

Twenty-eight women from twenty states serve in the **U.S. House of Representatives**, including fifteen Democrats and thirteen Republicans. They are:

Helen Delich Bentley, R-MD
Lindy Boggs, D-LA
Barbara Boxer, D-CA
Beverly Byron, D-MD
Cardiss Collins, D-IL
Nancy Johnson, R-CT
Marcy Kaptur, D-OH
Barbara Kennelly, D-CT
Marilyn Lloyd, D-TN
Jill Long, D-IN
Nita Lowey, D-NY
Lynn Martin, R-IL
Jan Meyers, R-KS
Susan Molinari, R-NY
Constance Morella, R-MD
Mary Rose Oakar, D-OH
Elizabeth Patterson, D-SC
Nancy Pelosi, D-CA
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-FL
Marge Roukema, R-NJ
Patricia Saiki, R-HI
Claudine Schneider, R-RI
Patricia Schroeder, D-CO
Louise Slaughter, D-NY
Virginia Smith, R-NE
Olympia Snowe, R-ME
Jolene Unsoeld, D-WA
Barbara Vucanovich, R-NV

STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

Women hold **46**, or **13.9%**, of the 330 statewide elective executive positions in 1990.[2]

Three women serve as **governors**: **Madeleine Kunin**, a Vermont Democrat, elected in 1984 and re-elected in 1986 and 1988; **Kay Orr**, a Nebraska Republican, who in 1986 became the first Republican woman elected governor of any state; and **Rose Mofford**, an Arizona Democrat. Mofford was re-elected secretary of state in 1986; when Governor Evan Mecham was impeached and convicted by the legislature in April 1988, Mofford became governor.

Four women serve as **lieutenant governors**: **Martha Griffiths** (D-MI), **Marlene Johnson** (DFL-MN), **Evelyn Murphy** (D-MA), and **Jo Ann Zimmerman** (D-IA). **Two** women serve in states where the **attorney general** is elected statewide: **Mary Sue Terry** (D-VA), who was elected in 1985, and **Clarine Riddle** (D-CT) who was appointed to fill a vacancy in January 1989.

Women hold statewide elective **secretary of state** positions in **eleven** states: California, Colorado, Connecticut, Iowa, Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, and Wyoming. Women hold statewide elective **state treasurer** positions in **ten** states: Arkansas, Colorado, Delaware, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Texas.

Six states — Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, Missouri, Montana, and Pennsylvania — have women **state auditors**. In North Dakota the **tax commissioner** is a woman. In Arizona, Montana, Washington, and Wyoming women serve as **superintendents of public instruction**, and the **commissioner of education** in Florida is a woman. In Oregon the **commissioner of labor** is a woman, and in North Dakota the **commissioner of agriculture** is a woman. One of the **corporation commissioners** in Arizona is a woman, as is one of the **public utilities commissioners** in South Dakota.

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[1]Offices included are: U.S. Congress, statewide elective executive offices, state legislatures, county governing boards, mayoralties, and municipal and township governing boards.

[2]These numbers do not include: officials appointed to state cabinet-level positions; officials elected to executive posts by the legislature; members of the judicial branch; or elected members of university Boards of Trustees or Boards of Education.

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STATE LEGISLATURES

In 1990, **1,273**, or **17.1%**, of the 7,461 state legislators in the United States are women. Women hold 267 state senate seats and 1,006 state house seats. The number of women serving in state legislatures has more than quadrupled since 1969 when 301, or 4.0%, of all state legislators were women.

The ten states with the **highest percentages** of women state legislators are:

State	% Women	State	% Women
Vermont	33.3	Colorado	29.0
New Hampshire	32.1	Wisconsin	25.8
Maine	31.2	Kansas	25.5
Arizona	30.0	Idaho	24.6
Washington	29.3	Hawaii	23.7

COUNTY GOVERNING BOARDS

In 1988, in the 47 states which have county governing boards, women held **1,653**, or **8.9%**, of the 18,483 available seats across the country.[1] Between 1975 and 1988, the number of women serving at the county governing board level more than tripled, rising from 456 in 1975, to 1,653 in 1988.

MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS

In July 1990, among the 100 largest cities in the U.S., **16** have women mayors; 4 of these women mayors serve in cities among the 10 largest. In order of city population,[2] the mayors are: **Kathy Whitmire** (Houston, TX - 4th largest city); **Maureen O'Connor** (San Diego, CA - 7th); **Annette Strauss** (Dallas, TX - 8th); **Lila Cockrell** (San Antonio, TX - 9th); **Suzie Azar** (El Paso, TX - 24th); **Sophie Masloff** (Pittsburgh, PA - 35th); **Sue Myrick** (Charlotte, NC - 44th); **Meyera Oberndorf** (Virginia Beach, VA - 47th); **Anne Rudin** (Sacramento, CA - 49th); **Karen Humphrey** (Fresno, CA - 53rd); **Sandra Freedman** (Tampa, FL - 54th); **Betty Turner** (Corpus Christi, TX - 58th); **Peggy Rubach** (Mesa, AZ - 60th); **Terry Frizzel** (Riverside, CA - 76th); **Joan Darrah** (Stockton, CA - 84th); and **Sheri Barnard** (Spokane, WA - 95th).

In June 1990, of the 879 mayors of U.S. cities with populations over 30,000, **140**, or **15.9%**, are women.[3] Of these women mayors, 31, or 17.0%, serve in the 182 U.S. cities with populations over 100,000.

In 1985, women comprised **14.3%** of mayors and municipal council members in the states for which complete data were available. There were **14,672** women elected to these posts out of a total of 102,329 officials.[4] The percentage of women holding municipal and township offices more than tripled from 1975 to 1985, rising from 4% to 14.3%.

PERCENTAGES OF WOMEN IN ELECTIVE OFFICES

Level of Office	1975	1977	1979	1981	1983	1985	1987	1989	1990
U.S. Congress	4%	4%	3%	4%	4%	5%	5%	5%	6%
Statewide Elective[5]	10%	8%	11%	11%	13%	14%	15%	14%+	14%+
State Legislatures	8%	9%	10%	12%	13%	15%	16%	17%	17%
County Governing Boards[1]	3%	4%	5%	6%	8%	8%(1984)	9%	9%(1988)	NA
Mayors & Municipal/Township Governing Boards	4%	8%	10%	10%	NA	14%[4]	NA	NA	NA

+Although there has been an increase in the number of women serving, the percentage decrease between 1987 and 1989-90 (14.6% to 13.9%) reflects a change in the base used to calculate this percentage (from 43 out of 295 in 1987 to 46 out of 330 in 1989-90).

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[1]The three states without county governing boards are CT, RI, and VT.

[2]According to 1986 data from the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

[3]Adjusted United States Conference of Mayors June 1990 figures.

[4]Includes data from Washington D.C.. States for which data were incomplete and therefore not included are: IL, IN, KY, MO, PA, WI.

[5]These numbers do not include: officials appointed to state cabinet-level positions; officials elected to executive posts by the legislature; members of the judicial branch; or elected members of university Boards of Trustees or Boards of Education.

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WOMEN OF COLOR* IN ELECTIVE OFFICE 1990

CONGRESS

In 1990, of the 30 women serving in the 101st U.S. Congress (Senate and House), **3** are women of color: **Representative Cardiss Collins** (D-IL), **Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen** (R-FL), and **Representative Patricia Saiki** (R-HI). No woman of color has ever served in the Senate. A total of 5 Black, 2 Asian/Pacific Islander, and 1 Hispanic women have served in the House of Representatives; they include 6 Democrats and 2 Republicans.

The first Black woman to serve in Congress was **Shirley Chisholm** (D-NY); elected in 1968, she served until 1983. Four other Black women have served in the House: **Yvonne Brathwaite Burke** (D-CA, 1973-1979), **Barbara Jordan** (D-TX, 1973-1979), **Katie Hall** (D-IN, 1982-1985), and **Cardiss Collins** (D-IL). First elected in 1973, Collins is the only Black woman serving in Congress in 1990.

Patsy Takemoto Mink (D-HI), the first Asian/Pacific Islander woman to serve in Congress, was elected in 1964 and served until 1977. **Patricia Saiki** (R-HI), elected in 1986 and currently serving in the 101st Congress, is the second.

Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), who won a special election in August 1989, is the first Cuban-American (female or male) and the first Hispanic woman ever elected to Congress.

STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE OFFICES

In 1990, of 46 women serving in statewide elective executive offices, **2** are women of color; both serve as elected secretaries of state.[1]

March Fong Eu (D) was first elected secretary of state of California in 1974; she became the first Asian/Pacific Islander woman elected statewide to top executive office in any state. Eu, who was also the first woman ever elected secretary of state of California, is currently serving her fourth term.

Rebecca Vigil-Giron (D), who is Hispanic, was elected secretary of state of New Mexico in 1986.

STATE LEGISLATURES

In 1990, of the 1,273 women state legislators serving nationwide, **133**, or **10.5%**, are women of color. Twenty-nine are senators and 104 are representatives; all but 2 are Democrats.

Black women hold **100** seats in state legislatures. There are 19 senators and 81 representatives serving in 32 states; all are Democrats.

Asian/Pacific Islander women hold **16** seats in state legislatures. There are 6 senators and 10 representatives serving in 3 states (HI, ID, OR); all but 2 are Democrats.

Hispanic women hold **12** seats in state legislatures. There are 3 senators and 9 representatives serving in 7 states (AZ, CA, CO, NM, NY, TX, WA); all are Democrats.

Native American women hold **5** seats in state legislatures. There are 1 senator and 4 representatives serving in 4 states (AK, MT, NM, OK); all are Democrats.

COUNTY GOVERNING BOARDS[2]

In 1989, **75** Black women held positions on county governing bodies, comprising **10.8%** of the 696 such seats held by Black officials. In comparison, 31 Black women served on county governing bodies in 1977, holding 9.3% of the 334 such seats held by Blacks.[3]

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*We use "women of color" throughout when referring to Black, Hispanic, Asian/Pacific Islander, and Native American women as a group. We understand that both the terms "women of color" and "minority women" are problematic, but know of no preferable inclusive term.

[1]These numbers do not include: officials appointed to state cabinet-level positions; officials elected to executive posts by the legislature; members of the judicial branch; or elected members of university Boards of Trustees or Boards of Education. Former state representative Hannah Atkins (D), who is Black, serves as the appointed secretary of state of Oklahoma.

[2]Different data collection methods are used and different states are included in county and municipal figures from CAWP, Joint Center for Political Studies (JCPS), and National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO); therefore data from these sources should not be combined or compared. No data exist for Asian/Pacific Islander or Native American women serving on county governing boards or municipal councils.

[3]JCPS figures. Data on Hispanic women serving on county governing boards are not included because figures available from NALEO are for all elected county officials, not just county governing board members.

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MUNICIPAL OFFICES[1]

In July 1990, of the 324 Black mayors serving nationwide, **70**, or **21.6%** are women.[2] **Carrie Saxon Perry** of Hartford, CT is the only Black woman mayor serving in a U.S. city with a population over 100,000; Hartford is the 121st largest city in the U.S.. Including Perry, **4** Black women serve as mayors in cities with populations over 30,000.

In 1989, Black women held **651**, or **22.6%**, of the 2,882 municipal council seats held by Black officials. In comparison, 12, or 7.4%, of the 162 Black mayors serving in 1977 were women. Black women held 197, or 12.6%, of the 1,560 municipal council seats held by Blacks in 1977.[3]

In 1989, **22**, or **12.5%**, of the 176 Hispanic mayors are women.[4]

General Information About Women in Elective Office

Congress

In 1990, women hold **30** seats in the 101st U.S. Congress; there are 2 women in the Senate and 28 women in the House of Representatives. Women hold **5.6%** of the 535 available seats — 2.0% of all Senate seats and 6.4% of all House seats. A total of 129 women have served in the U.S. Congress to date — 16 in the Senate and 115 in the House. (Two women have served in both the Senate and the House.)

Statewide Elective Executive Offices

In 1990, women hold **46**, or **13.9%**, of the 330 statewide elective executive offices[5] across the country, including 3 governors and 4 lieutenant governors. In 1977 there were 29 women serving in statewide elective executive offices, including 2 governors and 3 lieutenant governors.

State Legislatures

In 1990, women hold **17.1%** of all seats in state legislatures. **1,273** of the 7,461 state legislators serving in 1990 are women. Women hold 267, or 13.4%, of the 1,995 state senate seats and 1,006, or 18.4%, of the 5,466 state house or assembly seats. In 1977, women held 688, or 9.1%, of the available seats.

County Governing Boards

In 1988, women held **8.9%** of all seats on county governing boards.[6] **1,653** of the 18,483 county governing board members serving in 1988 were women. In 1977, women held 656, or 4.0%, of the available seats.

Municipal Offices

In 1985, in the states for which data were available, women comprised **14.3%** of mayors and municipal council members.[7] There were **14,672** women elected to these posts out of a total of 102,329 officials. In 1977, women held 9,406, or 8.1%, of the available seats.

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[1]Different data collection methods are used and different states are included in county and municipal figures from CAWP, Joint Center for Political Studies (JCPS), National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO) and National Conference of Black Mayors; therefore data from these sources should not be combined or compared. No data exist for Asian/Pacific Islander or Native American women serving on county governing boards or municipal councils.

[2]Adjusted National Conference of Black Mayors figures.

[3]JCPS figures.

[4]NALEO August 1989 figures. Data on Hispanic women serving on municipal councils are not included because figures available from NALEO are for all elected municipal officials, not just municipal council members.

[5]These numbers do not include: officials appointed to state cabinet-level positions; officials elected to executive posts by the legislature; members of the judicial branch; or elected members of university Boards of Trustees or Boards of Education.

[6]There is no county commissioner equivalent in CT, RI, or VT.

[7]Includes data from the District of Columbia. Complete data were not available for the following states: IL, IN, KY, MO, PA, WI.

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WOMEN IN THE U.S. CONGRESS 1990

In 1990, women hold **30** seats in the 101st U.S. Congress — **2** in the Senate and **28** in the House of Representatives. This is the largest number of women ever to serve in Congress. Women hold **5.6%** of the 535 seats in Congress — **2.0%** of the 100 Senate seats and **6.4%** of the 435 House seats.

The two women currently serving in the Senate are **Nancy Landon Kassebaum** (R-KS), elected in 1978 and re-elected in 1984, and **Barbara Mikulski** (D-MD), elected in 1986.

Twenty-eight women from 20 states serve in the House of Representatives, including **15** Democrats and **13** Republicans. They are:

Helen Delich Bentley, R-MD
Lindy Boggs, D-LA
Barbara Boxer, D-CA
Beverly Byron, D-MD
Cardiss Collins, D-IL
Nancy Johnson, R-CT
Marcy Kaptur, D-OH
Barbara Kennelly, D-CT
Marilyn Lloyd, D-TN
Jill Long, D-IN
Nita Lowey, D-NY
Lynn Martin, R-IL
Jan Meyers, R-KS
Susan Molinari, R-NY
Constance Morella, R-MD
Mary Rose Oakar, D-OH
Elizabeth Patterson, D-SC
Nancy Pelosi, D-CA
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, R-FL
Marge Roukema, R-NJ
Patricia Saiki, R-HI
Claudine Schneider, R-RI
Patricia Schroeder, D-CO
Louise Slaughter, D-NY
Virginia Smith, R-NE
Olympia Snowe, R-ME
Jolene Unsoeld, D-WA
Barbara Vucanovich, R-NV

Senators **Kassebaum** and **Mikulski** were not up for re-election in 1988. All 23 incumbent congresswomen sought re-election and won in 1988. The two representatives newly elected in the 1988 general elections are: **Nita Lowey** (D-NY), who previously served as New York's assistant secretary of state, and **Jolene Unsoeld** (D-WA), who was a state representative. They are joined by: **Jill Long** (D-IN), a former city councilwoman who won a special election in March 1989; **Ileana Ros-Lehtinen** (R-FL), who previously served as a state senator and won a special election in August 1989; and **Susan Molinari** (R-NY), a former city councilwoman who won a special election in March 1990.

A total of **129** (77D, 52R) women have served in the U.S. Congress to date, including **16** (9D, 7R) in the Senate and **115** (69D, 46R) in the House. Two women — **Margaret Chase Smith** (R-ME) and **Barbara Mikulski** (D-MD) — have served in both the House and the Senate.

The first woman elected to the House of Representatives was **Jeannette Rankin** (R-MT), who served from 1917 to 1919 and again from 1941 to 1942. The first woman to serve in the Senate was **Rebecca Latimer Felton** (D-GA); appointed in 1922, she served for one day. **Nancy Landon Kassebaum** (R-KS) is the first woman to have been elected to the Senate without having previously filled an unexpired Congressional term; **Barbara Mikulski** (D-MD) is the first Democratic woman to do so.

New York has had more women in its congressional delegation than any other state — a total of fifteen to date, all in the House. Ten states have never sent a woman to either the Senate or the House; they are Alaska, Delaware, Iowa, Mississippi, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Vermont, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Five Black women, two Asian/Pacific Islander women, and one Hispanic woman have served in the House of Representatives, including six Democrats and two Republicans. No woman of color has ever served in the Senate. The first Black woman to serve in Congress was **Shirley Chisholm** (D-NY); elected in 1968, she served until 1983. Four other Black women have served in the House: **Yvonne Brathwaite Burke** (D-CA, 1973-1979), **Barbara Jordan** (D-TX, 1973-1979), **Katie Hall** (D-IN, 1982-1985), and **Cardiss Collins** (D-IL). First elected in 1973, Collins is the only Black woman currently serving in Congress. **Patsy Takemoto Mink** (D-HI), who was the first Asian/Pacific Islander woman to serve in the House, was elected in 1964 and served until 1977; **Patricia Saiki** (R-HI), first elected in 1986, is the second. **Ileana Ros-Lehtinen** (R-FL), elected in August 1989, is the first Cuban-American (female or male) and the first Hispanic woman ever elected to Congress.

Women hold no leadership positions in the 101st Congress, and they do not chair any of the standing congressional committees. Seven women, all of whom served prior to 1977, have chaired congressional committees: Senator **Hattie Caraway** (D-AR), and Representatives **Martha Griffiths** (D-MI), **Mae Nolan** (R-CA), **Mary Norton** (D-NJ), **Caroline O'Day** (D-NY), **Edith Rogers** (R-MA), and **Leonor Sullivan** (D-MO). No woman has ever been speaker of the House or majority or minority leader of the Senate.

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CONGRESS	DATES	WOMEN IN SENATE	WOMEN IN HOUSE	TOTAL WOMEN
65th	1917-1919	0 (0D, 0R)	1 (0D, 1R)	1 (0D, 1R)
66th	1919-1921	0 (0D, 0R)	0 (0D, 0R)	0 (0D, 0R)
67th	1921-1923	1 (1D, 0R)	3 (0D, 3R)	4 (1D, 3R)
68th	1923-1925	0 (0D, 0R)	1 (0D, 1R)	1 (0D, 1R)
69th	1925-1927	0 (0D, 0R)	3 (1D, 2R)	3 (1D, 2R)
70th	1927-1929	0 (0D, 0R)	5 (2D, 3R)	5 (2D, 3R)
71st	1929-1931	0 (0D, 0R)	9 (5D, 4R)	9 (5D, 4R)
72nd	1931-1933	1 (1D, 0R)	7 (5D, 2R)	8 (6D, 2R)
73rd	1933-1935	1 (1D, 0R)	7 (4D, 3R)	8 (5D, 3R)
74th	1935-1937	2 (2D, 0R)	6 (4D, 2R)	8 (6D, 2R)
75th	1937-1939	3 (2D, 1R)	6 (5D, 1R)	9 (7D, 2R)
76th	1939-1941	1 (1D, 0R)	8 (4D, 4R)	9 (5D, 4R)
77th	1941-1943	1 (1D, 0R)	9 (4D, 5R)	10 (5D, 5R)
78th	1943-1945	1 (1D, 0R)	8 (2D, 6R)	9 (3D, 6R)
79th	1945-1947	0 (0D, 0R)	11 (6D, 5R)	11 (6D, 5R)
80th	1947-1949	1 (0D, 1R)	7 (3D, 4R)	8 (3D, 5R)
81st	1949-1951	1 (0D, 1R)	9 (5D, 4R)	10 (5D, 5R)
82nd	1951-1953	1 (0D, 1R)	10 (4D, 6R)	11 (4D, 7R)
83rd	1953-1955	2 (0D, 2R)	12 (5D, 7R)	14 (5D, 9R)
84th	1955-1957	1 (0D, 1R)	17 (10D, 7R)	18 (10D, 8R)
85th	1957-1959	1 (0D, 1R)	15 (9D, 6R)	16 (9D, 7R)
86th	1959-1961	2 (1D, 1R)	17 (9D, 8R)	19 (10D, 9R)
87th	1961-1963	2 (1D, 1R)	18 (11D, 7R)	20 (12D, 8R)
88th	1963-1965	2 (1D, 1R)	12 (6D, 6R)	14 (7D, 7R)
89th	1965-1967	2 (1D, 1R)	11 (7D, 4R)	13 (8D, 5R)
90th	1967-1969	1 (0D, 1R)	11 (6D, 5R)	12 (6D, 6R)
91st	1969-1971	1 (0D, 1R)	10 (6D, 4R)	11 (6D, 5R)
92nd	1971-1973	2 (1D, 1R)	13 (10D, 3R)	15 (11D, 4R)
93rd	1973-1975	0 (0D, 0R)	16 (14D, 2R)	16 (14D, 2R)
94th	1975-1977	0 (0D, 0R)	19 (14D, 5R)	19 (14D, 5R)
95th	1977-1979	2 (2D, 0R)	18 (13D, 5R)	20 (15D, 5R)
96th	1979-1981	1 (0D, 1R)	16 (11D, 5R)	17 (11D, 6R)
97th	1981-1983	2 (0D, 2R)	21 (11D, 10R)	23 (11D, 12R)
98th	1983-1985	2 (0D, 2R)	22 (13D, 9R)	24 (13D, 11R)
99th	1985-1987	2 (0D, 2R)	23 (12D, 11R)	25 (12D, 13R)
100th	1987-1989	2 (1D, 1R)	23 (12D, 11R)	25 (13D, 12R)
101st	1989-1991	2 (1D, 1R)	28 (15D, 13R)	30 (16D, 14R)

Please note: table shows maximum number of women elected or appointed to serve in that Congress at one time. Some filled out unexpired terms; some were never sworn in and one was a non-voting delegate from pre-statehood Hawaii.

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STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE WOMEN 1990

In 1990, women hold **46**, or **13.9%**, of the 330 statewide elective executive offices across the country.[1] Among these women, **34** are Democrats, **11** are Republicans, and **1** was elected in a nonpartisan race. The 46 officials serve in 32 states and include: 3 governors, 4 lieutenant governors, 11 secretaries of state, 10 state treasurers, 2 attorneys general,[2] 6 auditors, 4 superintendents of public instruction, 1 commissioner of education, 1 commissioner of labor, 1 commissioner of agriculture, 1 tax commissioner, 1 corporation commissioner, and 1 public utilities commissioner.

To date, women have been elected statewide to executive offices in 40 of the nation's 50 states. In Maine, New Hampshire, and New Jersey, the governor is the only executive elected statewide, and a woman has never served as governor in any of these three states. The other seven states where women have never been elected statewide to executive posts are: Alaska, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, North Carolina, Utah, and West Virginia.

GOVERNORS

Three women serve as **governors** in 1990.

Madeleine Kunin, a Vermont Democrat, was elected in 1984 and re-elected in 1986 and 1988. Kunin is the first woman governor elected to serve three terms. She served as lieutenant governor from 1979 to 1982 and in the Vermont House of Representatives from 1973 to 1979.

Rose Mofford, an Arizona Democrat, became governor in April of 1988 following the impeachment and conviction by the legislature of Governor Evan Mecham (R). Mofford served as secretary of state of Arizona from 1977 to 1988; she was appointed to fill a vacancy in 1977 and was subsequently elected in 1978, 1982, and 1986.

Kay Orr, a Nebraska Republican, was elected in 1986. Orr is the first Republican woman governor in the nation and the only woman to have run against another woman for a gubernatorial position. Orr served as Nebraska's state treasurer from 1981 to 1987; she was appointed to fill a vacancy in 1981 and was subsequently elected in 1982.

Kunin, Mofford, and Orr bring to 9 (8 Democrats and 1 Republican) the total number of women ever to serve as governors.

The first woman governor was **Nellie Taylor Ross** (D) of Wyoming. Elected to replace her deceased husband, Ross served from 1925 to 1927. **Miriam "Ma" Ferguson** (D), inaugurated as governor of Texas fifteen days after Ross' Wyoming inauguration, served from 1925 to 1927 and again from 1933 to 1935. Both **Lurleen Wallace** (D) of Alabama, who served from 1967 to 1968, and Ferguson were elected as surrogates for their husbands who could not run for re-election. **Ella Grasso** (D) of Connecticut was the first woman governor elected in her own right. She was elected in 1974 and re-elected to a second four-year term in 1978; Grasso stepped down for health reasons in December of 1980. **Dixy Lee Ray** (D), elected in 1976, served as governor of Washington from 1977 to 1981. **Martha Layne Collins** (D) of Kentucky was elected in 1983 and served from 1984 through 1987.

Of the 9 women who have served as governors, 5 were elected in their own right: Grasso, Ray, Collins, Kunin, and Orr. The largest number to serve simultaneously is 3; this occurred in 1987 (Collins, Kunin, Orr) and from 1988-1990 (Kunin, Mofford, Orr).

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[1]These figures do not include: officials appointed to state cabinet-level positions; officials elected to executive posts by the legislature; members of the judicial branch; or elected members of university Boards of Trustees or Boards of Education.

[2]In Conneticut the attorney general is elected statewide; these figures include Clarine Riddle (D-CT) who was appointed to fill a vacancy in January 1989.

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LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS

Four women serve as lieutenant governors in 1990 among the 42 states with such positions. They are:

Martha Griffiths (D-MI), elected in 1982, re-elected in 1986;
Marlene Johnson (DFL-MN), elected in 1982, re-elected in 1986;
Evelyn Murphy (D-MA), elected in 1986;
Jo Ann Zimmerman (D-IA), elected in 1986.

To date, 17 women have served as lieutenant governors; 15 (14 Democrats, 1 Republican) were elected and 2 (1 Democrat, 1 Republican)[1] were appointed to fill vacancies.

The first woman elected lieutenant governor was **Consuelo Bailey**, a Vermont Republican. Elected in 1954, she served from 1955 to 1957. Bailey previously served as speaker of the state House of Representatives; thus, as lieutenant governor, she became the only woman in the country to have presided over both chambers of a state legislature.[1] In addition to Bailey and those now serving, the other elected women lieutenant governors, all of whom have served since 1975, were: **Martha Layne Collins** (D-KY), **Nancy Dick** (D-CO), **Evelyn Gandy** (D-MS), **Jean King** (D-HI), **Mary Anne Krupsak** (D-NY), **Madeleine Kunin** (D-VT), **Ruth Meiers** (D-ND), **Nancy Stevenson** (D-SC), Thelma Stovall (D-KY), and **Harriet Woods** (D-MO). The 2 appointed women lieutenant governors were: **Matilda Wilson** (R-MI), who served in 1940; and **Maude Frazier** (D-NV) who served in 1962.[1]

ADDITIONAL WOMEN IN STATEWIDE ELECTIVE EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

SECRETARY OF STATE - 11

State	Name	Party
CA	March Fong Eu	D
CO	Natalie Meyer	R
CT	Julia Tashjian	D
IA	Elaine Baxter	D
MN	Joan Growe	DFL
NV	Frankie Sue Del Papa	D
NM	Rebecca Vigil-Giron	D
OR	Barbara Roberts	D
RI	Kathleen Connell	D
SD	Joyce Hazeltine	R
WY	Kathy Karpan	D

In addition, 4 women serve as appointed secretaries of state: Joan Haberle (D-NJ), Gail Shaffer (D-NY), Hannah Atkins (D-OK), Pamela Womack (D-VA).

STATE TREASURER - 10

State	Name	Party
AR	Jimmie Lou Fisher	D
CO	Gail Schoettler	D
DE	Janet Rzewnicki	R
ID	Lydia Justice Edwards	R
IN	Marjorie O'Laughlin	R
KS	Joan Finney	D
LA	Mary Landrieu	D
OH	Mary Ellen Withrow	D
PA	Catherine Baker Knoll	D
TX	Ann Richards	D

In addition, Lucille Maurer (D-MD) and Georgie Thomas (R-NH) were elected treasurers by their state legislatures.

ATTORNEY GENERAL - 2

State	Name	Party
CT	Clarine Nardie Riddle	D*
VA	Mary Sue Terry	D

*Appointed to fill a vacancy.

STATE AUDITOR - 6

State	Name	Party
AL	Jan Cook	D
AR	Julia Hughes Jones	D
IN	Ann DeVore	R
MO	Margaret Kelly	R
MT	Andrea Bennett*	R
PA	Barbara Hafer	R

*MT auditor also serves as insurance commissioner.

TAX COMMISSIONER - 1

State	Name	Party
ND	M.K. Heidi Heitkamp	D

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION - 1

State	Name	Party
FL	Betty Castor	D

SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION - 4

State	Name	Party
AZ	C. Diane Bishop	D
MT	Nancy Keenan	D
WA	Judith Billings	NP*
WY	Lynn Simons	D

*Election was nonpartisan.

COMMISSIONER OF LABOR - 1

State	Name	Party
OR	Mary Roberts	D

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE - 1

State	Name	Party
ND	Sarah Vogel	D

CORPORATION COMMISSIONER - 1

State	Name	Party
AZ	Marcia Weeks	D

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSIONER - 1

State	Name	Party
SD	Laska Schoenfelder	R

Women in American Politics, Martin Gruberg (Oshkosh, Wisconsin: Academia Press, 1968).

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WOMEN IN STATE LEGISLATURES 1990

In 1990, **1,273**, or **17.1%**, of the 7,461 state legislators in the United States are women. Women hold 267, or 13.4%, of the 1,995 state senate seats and 1,006, or 18.4%, of the 5,466 state house or assembly seats. Since 1969, the number of women serving in state legislatures has more than quadrupled.

Year	Women Legislators	% of Total Legislators
1969	301	4.0
1971	344	4.5
1973	424	5.6
1975	604	8.0
1977	688	9.1
1979	770	10.3
1981	908	12.1
1983	991	13.3
1985	1,103	14.8
1987	1,170	15.7
1989	1,270	17.0
1990	**1,273**	**17.1**

The **party breakdown** for women serving in state legislatures in 1990 is:

	Total Legislatures		State Senates		State Houses	
	#	%	#	%	#	%
Democrats	746	58.6	160	60.0	586	58.3
Republicans	517	40.6	97	36.3	420	41.8
Nonpartisans*	10	0.8	10	3.8	------	------
Total	1,273	100.0	267	100.1	1,006	100.1

The ten states with the **highest percentages** of women state legislators are:

State	% Women	State	% Women
Vermont	33.3	Colorado	29.0
New Hampshire	32.1	Wisconsin	25.8
Maine	31.2	Kansas	25.5
Arizona	30.0	Idaho	24.6
Washington	29.3	Hawaii	23.7

The ten states with the **lowest percentages** of women state legislators are:

State	% Women	State	% Women
Louisiana	2.1	Arkansas	7.4
Alabama	5.7	Oklahoma	8.7
Mississippi	5.8	South Carolina	8.8
Kentucky	5.8	Tennessee	9.9
Pennsylvania	6.7	Georgia	10.2

Every state has at least three women in its state house, and only one state (Louisiana) has no women in its state senate.

Two women are **speakers of houses** in 1990: Representative Jane Hull (R-AZ) and Representative Vera Katz (D-OR).

The **first** woman to serve in a state legislature was Martha Hughes Canon; she was elected to the Utah State Senate in 1896.

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*In Nebraska, where the legislature is unicameral, legislators are elected on a nonpartisan basis.

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STATE	STATE RANK	SENATE D	SENATE R	TOTAL WOMEN/ TOTAL SENATE	HOUSE D	HOUSE R	TOTAL WOMEN/ TOTAL HOUSE	TOTAL WOMEN/ TOTAL LEGIS.	% WOMEN OVERALL
AL	49	0	1	1/35	7	0	7/105	8/140	5.7
AK	16+	1	3	4/20	4	4	8/ 40	12/ 60	20.0
AZ	4	2	3	5/30	9	13	22/ 60	27/ 90	30.0
AR	45	2	0	2/35	7	1	8/100	10/135	7.4
CA	27	3	2	5/40	7	7	14/ 80	19/120	15.8
CO	6	2	5	7/35	9	13	22/ 65	29/100	29.0
CT	14	4	3	7/36	19	15	34/151	41/187	21.9
DE	26	2	2	4/21	2	4	6/ 41	10/ 62	16.1
FL	25	7	3	10/40	8	8	16/120	26/160	16.3
GA	41	1	1	2/56	18	4	22/180	24/236	10.2
HI	10	6	1	7/25	10	1	11/ 51	18/ 76	23.7
ID	9	5	4	9/42	6	16	22/ 84	31/126	24.6
IL	20	6	6	12/59	9	12	21/118	33/177	18.6
IN	33	6	5	11/50	4	6	10/100	21/150	14.0
IA	24	3	3	6/50	13	6	19/100	25/150	16.7
KS	8	5	4	9/40	16	17	33/125	42/165	25.5
KY	47	2	0	2/38	3	3	6/100	8/138	5.8
LA	50	0	0	0/39	3	0	3/105	3/144	2.1
ME	3	5	5	10/35	29	19	48/151	58/186	31.2
MD	12	7	1	8/47	31	4	35/141	43/188	22.9
MA	23	3	2	5/40	22	7	29/160	34/200	17.0
MI	30	1	1	2/38	12	8	20/110	22/148	14.9
MN	21	6	4	10/67	17	10	27/134	37/201	18.4
MS	48	2	1	3/52	7	0	7/122	10/174	5.8
MO	31	1	1	2/34	19	8	27/163	29/197	14.7
MT	22	5	1	6/50	16	5	21/100	27/150	18.0
NE	15	NONPARTISAN		10/49	UNICAMERAL			10/ 49	20.4
NV	13	2	2	4/21	8	2	10/ 42	14/ 63	22.2
NH	2	2	4	6/24	48	82	130/400	136/424	32.1
NJ	38	2	1	3/40	4	6	10/ 80	13/120	10.8
NM	34	3	1	4/42	5	6	11/ 70	15/112	13.4
NY	37	5	1	6/61	14	3	17/150	23/211	10.9
NC	32	2	2	4/50	12	8	20/120	24/170	14.1
ND	29	3	2	5/53	10	9	19/106	24/159	15.1
OH	35	1	2	3/33	11	3	14/ 99	17/132	12.9
OK	44	5	1	6/48	6	1	7/101	13/149	8.7
OR	16+	6	1	7/30	6	5	11/ 60	18/ 90	20.0
PA	46	2	0	2/50	7	8	15/203	17/253	6.7
RI	28	5	4	9/50	11	3	14/100	23/150	15.3
SC	43	1	1	2/46	10	3	13/124	15/170	8.8
SD	19	6	1	7/35	6	7	13/ 70	20/105	19.1
TN	42	1	1	2/33	4	7	11/ 99	13/132	9.9
TX	40	2	1	3/31	11	5	16/150	19/181	10.5
UT	36	1	0	1/29	5	6	11/ 75	12/104	11.5
VT	1	6	0	6/30	30	24	54/150	60/180	33.3
VA	39	2	1	3/40	8	4	12/100	15/140	10.7
WA	5	5	5	10/49	22	11	33/ 98	43/147	29.3
WV	18	6	1	7/34	16	3	19/100	26/134	19.4
WI	7	1	3	4/33	18	12	30/ 99	34/132	25.8
WY	11	4	0	4/30	7	11	18/ 64	22/ 94	23.4
TOTALS		160	97	267/1,995	586	420	1,006/5,466	1,273/7,461	17.1

(10 nonpartisans)

+ States with the same percentage are given the same rank

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WOMEN IN MUNICIPAL OFFICE 1990

In **1985**, women comprised **14.3%** of mayors and municipal council members in the states for which data were available.[1] There were **14,672** women elected to these posts out of a total of 102,329 officials. The percentage of women holding municipal and township offices more than tripled from 1975 to 1985, rising from 4% to 14.3%.

The **highest percentages** of women elected to municipal office were found in the District of Columbia (50%) and Hawaii (30%), each of which has only one incorporated municipality. Of the states with a substantial number of available positions,[2] Michigan ranked highest with 27.5% women among its elected municipal officials.[3]

After the District of Columbia and Hawaii, the ten states with the highest pro-portions of women in municipal office (mayors and council members combined) in 1985 were:

State	% of Women in Municipal Office	State	% of Women in Municipal Office
Michigan[3]	27.5	Wyoming	17.8
Alaska	23.1	California	17.8
Oregon	22.2	Arizona	17.6
Washington	19.3	Delaware	17.5
Connecticut	18.7	Ohio	16.5

In **July 1990**, among the **100 largest** cities in the U.S., **16** have women mayors; 4 of these women mayors serve in cities among the 10 largest. In order of city population, the mayors are:

Rank by Population[4]	City	Name	Party*	Year First Took Office
4	Houston, TX	**Kathy Whitmire**	NP	1982
7	San Diego, CA	**Maureen O'Connor**	NP	1986
8	Dallas, TX	**Annette Strauss**	NP	1987
9	San Antonio, TX	**Lila Cockrell**	NP	1975-81/1989
24	El Paso, TX	**Suzie Azar**	NP	1989
35	Pittsburgh, PA	**Sophie Masloff**	D	1988
44	Charlotte, NC	**Sue Myrick**	R	1987
47	Virginia Beach, VA	**Meyera Oberndorf**	NP	1988
49	Sacramento, CA	**Anne Rudin**	NP	1983
53	Fresno, CA	**Karen Humphrey**	NP	1989
54	Tampa, FL	**Sandra Freedman**	NP	1986
58	Corpus Christi, TX	**Betty Turner**	NP	1987
60	Mesa, AZ	**Peggy Rubach**	NP	1988
76	Riverside, CA	**Terry Frizzel**	NP	1990
84	Stockton, CA	**Joan Darrah**	NP	1990
95	Spokane, WA	**Sheri Barnard**	NP	1990

* NP indicates mayoral election is nonpartisan.

In June 1990, of the 879 mayors of U.S. cities with populations over 30,000, **140**, or **15.9%**, are women.[5] Of these women mayors, **31**, or **17.0%** serve in the 182 U.S. cities with populations over 100,000. In July 1990, of the 324 Black mayors serving nationwide, **70**, or **21.6%**, are women.[6] In 1989, **22**, or **12.5%**, of the 176 Hispanic mayors were women.[7]

Among the 30 women serving in the **U.S. Congress** in 1990 (2 in the Senate and 28 in the House), **6** previously served on municipal councils. They are: Senator Barbara Mikulski (D-MD); and Representatives Barbara Kennelly (D-CT), Jill Long (D-IN), Jan Meyers (R-KS), Susan Molinari (R-NY), and Mary Rose Oakar (D-OH).

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[1]Includes data from the District of Columbia. States for which data are incomplete and therefore not included are: IL, IN, KY, MO, PA, WI.

[2]Other states with fewer than 100 incorporated municipalities are: NV, 17; RI, 39; DE, 56; AZ, 76; WY, 91; NM, 96.

[3]Michigan is the only state in which clerks and treasurers are included in these figures. They are elected ex officio to the councils and vote on policy matters before those bodies.

[4]According to 1986 data from the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

[5]Adjusted United States Conference of Mayors June 1990 figures.

[6]Adjusted National Conference of Black Mayors figures.

[7]National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials figures.

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Seattle, WA was the first major city to elect a woman mayor. **Bertha Landes**, who had served as president of the city council, was elected mayor of Seattle in 1926.[1] The largest U.S. city yet to elect a woman mayor is Chicago, IL, where **Jane Byrne** (D) served from 1979-1983. Past women mayors elected to serve among the 100 largest cities have included:[2]

City	Name	Party*	Years Served
Austin, TX	**Carole McClellan**	D	1977-1983
Chicago, IL	**Jane Byrne**	D	1979-1983
Cincinnati, OH	**Bobbie Stern**	NP	1975-76/78-79
Garland, TX	**Ruth Nicholson**	NP	1988-1990
Hartford, CT	**Ann Uccello**	R	1967-1971
Honolulu, HI	**Eileen Anderson**	D	1981-1985
Huntington Beach, CA	**Norma B. Gibbs**	R	1975-1976
Huntington Beach, CA	**Ruth Bailey**	R	1984-1985
Lincoln, NE	**Helen Boosalis**	D	1975-1983
Little Rock, AR	**Lottie Shackelford**	NP	1987-1988
Long Beach, CA	**Eunice Sato**	R	1980-1982
Oklahoma City, OK	**Patience Latting**	D	1971-1983
Phoenix, AZ	**Margaret Hance**	R	1974-76/78-80
Portland, OR	**Dorothy Lee**	R	1949-1952
Richmond, VA	**Eleanor Sheppard**	NP	1962-1964
Richmond, VA	**Geline Williams**	NP	1988-1990
Sacramento, CA	**Belle Cooledge**	NP	1948-1949
St. Petersburg, FL	**Corinne Freeman**	R	1978-1985
San Francisco, CA	**Dianne Feinstein**	D	1978-1988
San Jose, CA	**Janet Gray Hayes**	D	1974-1982
Seattle, WA	**Bertha Landes**	NP	1926-1928
Spokane, WA	**Vicki McNeill**	NP	1986-1988
Stockton, CA	**Barbara Fass**	NP	1985-1990
Toledo, OH	**Donna Owens**	R	1983-1989
Worcester, MA	**Sara Robertson**	D	1982-1983

*NP indicates mayoral election is nonpartisan.

Elected in 1887, **Susanna Salter** of Argonia, KS was the first woman mayor in the United States; she was paid one dollar for a year of service.[1]

The first Black woman to serve as mayor of a city with a population over 100,000 was **Loretta Glickman**; she was chosen as mayor of Pasadena, CA in 1982.

Women have presided over both major national organizations of municipal offi-cials. Four women have served as presidents of the **National League of Cities**: **Pamela Plumb**, Portland, ME Councilor, 1988; **Cathy Reynolds**, Denver, CO City Councilwoman-at-Large, 1987; **Jessie Rattley**, then Newport News, VA City Councilwoman, 1980; and **Phyllis Lamphere**, former Seattle, WA City Council President, 1977. Two women have served as president of the **U.S. Conference of Mayors**: **Kathy Whitmire**, Houston, TX Mayor, 1989-1990; and **Helen Boosalis**, then Lincoln, NE Mayor, 1981-82.

Data from a 1981 Center for the American Woman and Politics survey of women in elected office show:

- Women mayors and council members are most frequently between the ages of 40 and 59.
- More than half of all women mayors and council members hold jobs outside of the home at the same time they are serving in office.
- Most women mayors and council members who list occupations outside the home are in professional/technical or clerical/secretarial fields. More than 10% of the women municipal officials are elementary or secondary school teachers, by far the most common single occupation listed by the women.
- More than half of all women mayors and council members have had at least some college education.
- More than 3/4 of all women mayors and council members are currently married, and of those, almost all report that their husbands are supportive of their political careers.
- Fewer than half of all women mayors and council members have children younger than 12 years old.[3]

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[1] *Women in American Politics*, Martin Gruberg (Oshkosh, Wisconsin: Academia Press, 1968).

[2] List may be incomplete. U.S. Bureau of the Census data on city population was used to determine the 100 largest cities during the years each woman served.

[3] From a series of CAWP studies entitled "Bringing More Women into Public Office," conducted under a grant from the Charles H. Revson Foundation.

WOMEN MAYORS AND MUNICIPAL COUNCIL MEMBERS: A COMPARISON BETWEEN 1975 and 1985

STATE	Number of Women Mayors and Municipal Council Members 1975	1985	Percentage of Women (Rank Among States) 1985		Percentage Increase from 1975 to 1985
AL	85	281	11.0	(33)	230
AK	35	233	23.1	(2)	566
AZ	39	87	17.6	(8)	123
AR	160	365	11.9	(28)	128
CA	220	465	17.8	(7)	111
CO	170	315	16.5	(11)	85
CT	130	240	18.7	(5)	85
DE	22	57	17.5	(9)	159
DC	3	7	50.0	(+)	*
FL	174	311	13.3	(19)	19
GA	77	251	7.8	(40)	226
HI	1	3	30.0	(+)	*
ID	45	141	13.2	(21)	213
IL	---	---	---- NA ----		---
IN	---	---	---- NA ----		---
IA	304	732	12.9	(22)	141
KS	165	445	11.9	(29)	170
KY	---	---	---- NA ----		---
LA	65	183	11.7	(30)	182
ME	87	243	10.4	(36)	179
MD	59	133	15.2	(14)	125
MA	48	217	11.3	(32)	352
MI	*	2,779	27.5	(1)	*
MN	227	542	12.8	(25)	139
MS	82	176	10.5	(35)	115
MO	---	---	---- NA ----		---
MT	57	110	14.4	(15)	93
NE	83	241	7.6	(41)	190
NV	2	15	16.1	(13)	*
NH	39	113	10.7	(34)	190
NJ	213	451	13.2	(20)	112
NM	33	86	16.3	(12)	161
NY	*	797	14.4	(17)	*
NC	141	337	12.2	(26)	139
ND	69	174	8.5	(39)	152
OH	*	1,129	16.5	(10)	*
OK	92	312	10.2	(37)	239
OR	175	344	22.2	(3)	97
PA	---	---	---- NA ----		---
RI	21	30	12.8	(24)	43
SC	72	184	12.2	(27)	156
SD	50	149	8.9	(38)	198
TN	50	144	7.1	(42)	188
TX	277	786	12.8	(23)	184
UT	40	137	11.5	(31)	243
VT	44	87	6.3	(43)	98
VA	117	211	13.3	(18)	80
WA	153	341	19.3	(4)	123
WV	120	202	13.6	(16)	68
WI	---	---	---- NA ----		---
WY	34	86	17.8	(6)	153
NATIONAL	**4,080**	**14,672**	**14.3**		**260**

*The number is too small or 1975 and 1985 data are based on different assumptions so comparisons are invalid.

+The District of Columbia and Hawaii are not ranked because each has only one incorporated municipality.

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